

Application No. 09/824,051

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-63. (Cancelled)

64. (New) A fuel tank comprising a wall of thermoplastic material, said wall having a portion in relief on the inside of the tank, said portion in relief defining a permanent housing inside the tank for receiving at least partially an attachment and being made either:

by a portion of the wall overmolded on at least one insert; or

by a mounting member mounted on the wall of the tank,

wherein neither the insert nor the mounting member pierce the wall of the tank and the insert is separate from the attachment.

65. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 64, wherein the attachment is selected from the group consisting of: a pipe, a filter, a pump, a fuel gauge, and a support member.

66. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 64, wherein said attachment is a valve.

67. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 64, wherein said portion in relief is made on the top of the wall of the tank.

68. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 64, wherein said housing has an end wall, and the attachment comes into contact with said end wall once it has been mounted

69. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 64, wherein said housing is formed inside an annular wall.

70. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 69, wherein said annular wall is interrupted.

71. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 69, wherein said annular wall is continuous.

72. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein said portion in relief comprises two tabs, said housing being formed between the tabs.

73. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the attachment is mounted in the housing along an axial direction thereof.

74. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein said portion in relief has a shape selected to enable the attachment to be mounted by snap-fastening.

75. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein said portion in relief has a shape selected to enable the attachment to be held by friction to the wall of the tank.

*expanding
to another
embodiment
or specific
not in claims
originally*

Application No. 09/824,051

76. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the shape of the insert is configured to reinforce the wall of the tank, limiting variations in the dimensions thereof.

77. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the overmolded portion of the insert has a shape configured to guarantee effective retention in the wall of the tank.

78. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the portion in relief has an annular shape with a radially inner surface that diverges towards the outside of the tank.

79. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the insert is made of a material having a melting temperature that is higher than that of the material(s) of the parison.

80. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the insert comprises a polyolefin.

81. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the insert comprises a metal.

82. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the insert comprises a high-density polyethylene.

83. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall of the tank comprises at least one layer of thermoplastic material and a layer that forms a barrier against hydrocarbons.

84. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall has two layers of thermoplastic material and, sandwiched between them, a layer forming a barrier against hydrocarbons.

85. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall of the tank has received a treatment for forming a barrier against hydrocarbons.

86. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 85, wherein the wall of the tank has received a treatment by fluorination.

87. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall of the fuel tank is blow molded.

88. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall of the fuel tank is rotomolded.

89. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the wall of the fuel tank is thermoformed.

90. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein said mounting member is mounted on the wall of the tank by heat-sealing.

Application No. 09/824,051

91. (New) A fuel tank according to claim 65, wherein the attachment has elastically deformable tabs suitable for deforming elastically to go past an annular bead on the mounting member

this
combo was
originally
presented
claims

Combination
fuel tank w/
wall, insert &
attachment

92. (New). A fuel tank comprising:
a wall of thermoplastic material,
at least one insert, the wall having at least one portion covering the insert, said portion being in relief and comprising a housing suitable for receiving at least partially an attachment separate from the insert, said attachment being situated at least partially inside the fuel tank and being not in contact with the insert.

this combo is restrictive
since it doesn't have
overmolded portion